



## **SPECIAL INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR IRAQ RECONSTRUCTION**

December 21, 2007

### **MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION LIST**

**FROM:** Stuart W. Bowen, Jr., Inspector General

**SUBJECT:** Supplemental Information Memorandum

This Memorandum supplements my November 16, 2007, communication to you providing background information on topics that were the subject of Freedom of Information Act requests to SIGIR. More recent FOIA requests have focused on SIGIR's review of employees' email. Again, in the interests of transparency, I am providing you the following background information applicable to this matter.

SIGIR's policies provide for the appropriate review of employee emails, as do the policies of other government agencies. Our employee training and our computer banners inform employees of this, and the SIGIR email policy is posted on the organization's intranet. I expect that SIGIR employees hold themselves to the highest standards and use their computers and email appropriately. In actual practice, email reviews at SIGIR have been limited in number and were only conducted when necessary because of allegations of work-related misconduct.

In fact, there have only been four instances in the four-year lifespan of SIGIR where it was necessary for me to authorize the review of staff emails as part of an internal, administrative investigation. In the course of those inquiries, a select portion of six individuals' emails were reviewed. In all but two instances these reviews did not corroborate the allegations; no action was taken against the staff in question where the allegations were not corroborated. The emails were reviewed by members of the SIGIR staff I assigned to conduct the investigations and the results were reported to me.

Congress's recent extension of SIGIR's authority will place upon us a substantial obligation to perform at even higher levels. I am confident that the dedicated employees of SIGIR join me in re-committing to our critical mission and will continue to exceed my expectations. I look forward to presenting our accomplishments to you during the coming year.

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